

# Hadley

WhirrrTHUMP! The metal door of a three-row van slides open as a 4-year-old girl lightly steps out onto the freshly-paved sidewalk outside of Southern Elementary. Without saying a word, she reaches into the back seat and pulls out a sparkly pink backpack. She then slams the van door shut and runs around to the other side, opening the door. She slowly hugs her grandma and tells her goodbye, nervous for her first day of school, but little did she know it was going to be much better than she expected.

The girl walks down the hall to room 12AD. She knocks on the door, and starts when the door is suddenly flung open and the smiling face of a girl with brown hair and river-deep dark green eyes suddenly appears in the open doorway. Her eyes widen when she sees the girl and she asks what her name is.

“Reena,” the girl says slowly, “What’s yours?”

"Hadley!" the brown-haired girl says brightly. "Nice to meet you! Come on in!" The two girls make their way into the room. Reena walks into a brightly colored room full of hand-drawn pictures of butterflies, monkeys and even fish! On one side of the room sits a large, bright blue rug with the Alphabet and numbers up to 10 bordering it. Above the carpet, on the wall, hangs a large white board with a metal tray on the bottom edge holding a few dry erase markers and two or three erasers. The left side of the room is full of playthings, including a large play kitchen with a fridge and even a fake stove that lights up when the cook button is pressed. In front of all these toys sits a row of oddly shaped multi-color plastic tables with plastic chairs of all colors surrounding them. In the far-right corner, close to the carpet and white board, rests a long, oak wood desk with two leather rolling desk chairs behind it. In each chair sits a woman. The woman on the right has blonde hair and dark brown eyes in a black dress, whereas the woman on the left has short, brunet colored hair and green

eyes. She wears a red shirt and a blue denim skirt. The blonde-haired woman comes up to Reena and introduces herself as Mrs. Angey, the preschool teacher, and that the red-haired grumpy-looking one is her assistant teacher, Mrs. Joe. Skyla smiles and shakes Mrs. Angey's hand.